

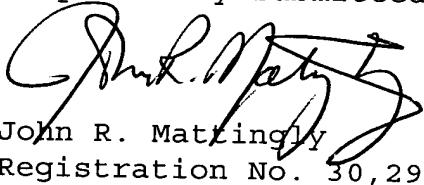
REMARKS

Claims 13, 15, and 16 have been amended. Claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to thereby render moot the rejection under 35 USC §102(e) without admitting to the propriety of the rejection. Accordingly, claims 13-20 are currently pending.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: June 18, 2004